

work he has done in the Pennsylvania Association of Realtors. The Pennsylvania Association of Realtors Distinguished Service and National Award Chip received is a most prestigious honor and one that appropriately acknowledges Chip's outstanding contributions to his profession and community.

**HOLOCAUST MUSEUM TO HONOR
TURKISH DIPLOMAT FOR SAVING
JEWISH LIVES**

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on October 26th, the Holocaust Memorial Museum will honor former Turkish diplomat Selahattin Ulkumen. Few honors anywhere have been more deserved.

In 1944, Mr. Selahattin was a young diplomat who stared down German military authorities on the occupied island of Rhodes, convincing them to rescind the deportation orders of 50 Jews and their families and saving them from certain death. He paid a painful price for his courage.

Today Rhodes is part of Greece, but it was part of the Ottoman Empire from 1522 to 1912 and under Italian control from 1912 through most of World War II. There were 1,700 Jews on the island when Germany took over Rhodes in 1943, after the death of Mussolini hastened the disintegration of Italian rule.

On July 19, 1944, the Gestapo ordered all Jews on Rhodes to report for "temporary transportation to a small island nearby." Everybody knew what that meant. They were to be transported—and not temporarily—to Auschwitz.

When the Jews were rounded up, Consul-General Ulkumen went immediately to the detention center and demanded the release of the Jews who were Turkish citizens, as well as their spouses and families. The German commander refused at first, but Ulkumen persisted, claiming that deportation of Turkish citizens would violate German-Turkish treaties and boldly asserting that neutral and neighboring Turkey would raise the matter to the level of an "international incident" if Turkish citizens were deported. In the eyes of Turkish law, he said, all citizens are equal.

The German commander finally relented, but insisted that only Jews with citizenship papers—a total of 13—would be released, not their spouses and families. Ulkumen, however, would not give ground. According to Turkish law, he said indignantly, the spouses and families of Turkish citizens ARE Turkish citizens. He was lying through his teeth. There was no such Turkish law. But the German commander fell for it, and, after a few days, agreed to release the spouses and families. In at least one instance, the husband of a Jewish Turkish citizen actually was taken off a train already bound from the Greek port of Piraeus to Auschwitz after Ulkumen won his point. Ulkumen also managed to win the release of some 25–30 Jews who were former Turkish citizens but had allowed their citizenship to lapse.

In all, according to the website of Israel's Yad Vashem Memorial Museum, Ulkumen managed to win the freedom and save the

lives of some 50 Rhodes Jews. He was their only line of defense against the final solution. The remainder of Rhodes Jews all were deported to Auschwitz, where 90% of them perished.

The story doesn't end there. Shortly after the release of the Turkish Jews and their families, the Germans—perhaps having discovered that Consul-General Ulkumen had tricked them regarding Turkish law—took their revenge. They bombed the Turkish Consulate on Rhodes. Consul-General Ulkumen escaped harm, but his pregnant wife did not. She was seriously wounded—mortally, it turned out a few weeks later. But, before she died, she managed to give birth. Ulkumen himself died last year at the age of 89, but the product of that pregnancy, a son—now a 60-year-old man—will accept the Holocaust Museum's award on his late father's behalf.

Ulkumen went on to hold many distinguished positions in the Turkish foreign service before retiring in the 1970s. Yad Vashem paid tribute to his courage in 1990 by naming him one of the "Righteous Among the Nations" and planting a tree in his honor. He was the first Muslim ever to receive this honor. In 2001, his own nation bestowed its highest award on Ulkumen—the Supreme Service Medal—for his Holocaust-era heroism on behalf of Jews.

In both Judaism and Islam, it is said that saving one life is like saving the world. Thanks to Mr. Ulkumen, several family trees flourish today that otherwise would have been eliminated forever. He put his life—and that of his family—at risk rather than compromise his belief in equality and his commitment to the sanctity of human life. Unfortunately for Europe's Jews, bravery of his sort was all-too-rare. I commend the Holocaust Museum for venerating the memory of Selahattin Ulkumen and his deeds and for bestowing this honor on this profoundly honorable man.

**CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF THE
NEWSPAPER ASIANWEEK**

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, a distinguished, nationally-distributed newspaper based in San Francisco is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Today I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting a quarter-century of achievement by this important information resource, AsianWeek.

Founded in 1979 by John T.C. Fang, who came to the United States from China in the early 1950s, AsianWeek now boasts a confirmed readership of 175,000 people in its print form and countless others on-line. It is the only English language, national newsweekly chronicling the Asian Pacific American experience in all its variety. AsianWeek also offers an opportunity for Americans as a whole to learn about issues of particular importance to one of the country's fastest-growing communities, including civil rights, immigration, employment, and international affairs.

John Fang launched the paper to help his fellow new Americans better themselves, and his legacy has passed to his family: Now published by his son James and edited his son

Ted, and with the guidance of their mother, Chairwoman Florence Fang, AsianWeek reaches a broad cross-section of Americans, from recent arrivals in the immigrant community to leaders of national stature in business, politics, academia and culture. Its mission is to tell the story of Asian Pacific American life, to provide a forum in matters of importance to its readership, and to involve Asian Pacific Americans meaningfully in the nation's political process.

To this end, the paper recently scored an important exclusive among the Asian American press: an interview with presidential nominee JOHN KERRY, who discussed a range of subjects with editor-in-chief Samson Wong, from a proposed federal program combating hate crimes to the new vistas that have opened for his niece, a toddler adopted in China.

But perhaps more important than any single story, AsianWeek aspires with every edition to deliver consistent, high-quality information on all manner of subjects of interest to its target readership. For these efforts, it has won several awards—both for overall coverage and individual citations from New California Media, a national association of more than 700 ethnic media organizations.

The paper also provides place where disparate views on those subjects can be freely expressed. Dedicated to promoting discussion among people whose backgrounds include the many ethnic groups of South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific, AsianWeek describes itself as "The Voice of Asian America."

Mr. Speaker, may the Asian Pacific American community, and U.S. society as a whole, continue to benefit from the availability of this eloquent and extraordinary voice.

**PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 10, 9/11 RECOMMENDATIONS
IMPLEMENTATION ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it pleases me that the Committee on Rules had the prudence to make the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. MENENDEZ, in order. This important amendment has been endorsed by the 9/11 Commission and embodies the provisions found in the Collins/Lieberman proposal, S. 2845 and the McCain/Lieberman proposal, S. 2774.

Nevertheless, I am disappointed that we only have 3 hours and 40 minutes of general debate to divide between eight of the many committees of jurisdiction with respect to this legislation. In our work on H.R. 10, we have a duty to take into account the families that will be affected. We in this august body have a duty to take into account that these families—in fact, all American families, will be waiting and watching to see if this body will act responsibly, appropriately, and adequately.

The base bill includes over 50 extraneous provisions that were not recommended by the 9/11 Commission. Within these extraneous provisions are legislative "poison pills" that will ultimately frustrate our overall purpose—to make America safe. These poison pills include: